



Iran is 'directly involved' in Yemen Houthi rebel ship attacks



Page 2

U.S. Navy Vice Adm. Brad Cooper, who heads the Navy's Bahrain-based 5th Fleet, speaks at an event at the International Defense Exhibition and Conference in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, Feb. 21, 2023.

Associated Press



Did you know about...?
The history and meaning of the Aruban florin

Page 11

Food culture in Aruba



Page 9

JANUARY
25
THURSDAY

♦ *Dia di Betico* ♦

20 Points - 1 Ticket
Claim Tickets until 9:30PM
Raffle - 10:30PM

2 Winners X \$100 CASH
2 Winners X \$150 CASH
2 Winners X \$250 CASH

THE CASINO
ARUBA

Free Sangria
WITH THIS COUPON
ACROBATIC
LIVE SHOW
Wed & Fri - 7pm-9pm

SHOW TICKETS
\$35 p/p
www.rccqua.com
Reservations:
+297 744 4059

LOCAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION DIA DI BETICO
THURSDAY JANUARY 25TH STARTING FROM 5 PM

Paseo Herencia
Shopping, Dining & Entertainment Center
Located in Palm Beach high rise area, across the Holiday Inn Hotel
www.paseoherencia.com

Iran is 'directly involved' in Yemen Houthi rebel ship attacks

By JON GAMBRELL

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Iran is "very directly involved" in ship attacks that Yemen's Houthi rebels have carried out during Israel's war against Hamas, the U.S. Navy's top Mideast commander told The Associated Press on Monday.

Vice Adm. Brad Cooper, the head of the Navy's 5th Fleet, stopped short of saying Tehran directed individual attacks by the Houthis in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

However, Cooper acknowledged that attacks associated with Iran have expanded from previously threatening just the Persian Gulf and its Strait of Hormuz into waters across the wider Middle East.

"Clearly, the Houthi actions, probably in terms of their attacks on merchant shipping, are the most significant that we've seen in two generations," he told the AP in a telephone interview. "The facts simply are that they're attacking the international community; thus, the international response I think you've seen." Iran's mission to the United Nations and the Houthi leadership in Yemen's capital, Sanaa, didn't respond to a request for comment. However, the Houthis later claimed to have attacked a U.S.-flagged vessel, something that the 5th Fleet dismissed as "patently false."

Since November, the Iranian-backed Houthis have launched at least 34 attacks on shipping through the waterways leading up to Egypt's Suez Canal, a vital route for energy and cargo coming from Asia and the Middle East onward to Europe.

The Houthis, a Shiite rebel group that's held Sanaa since 2014 and been at war with a Saudi-led coalition backing Yemen's exiled government since 2015, link their attacks to the Israel-Hamas war. However, the ships they've targeted increasingly have tenuous links to Israel — or none at all.

In recent days, the U.S. has



This undated photograph released by the U.S. military's Central Command shows what it is described as Iranian-made missile components bound for Yemen's Houthi seized off a vessel in the Arabian Sea.

Associated Press

launched seven rounds of airstrikes on Houthi military sites, targeting air bases under the rebels' control and suspected missile launch sites.

However, risks for the global economy remain as many ships continue to bypass that route for a longer trip around Africa's southern tip. That meant lower revenue for Egypt through the Suez Canal, a vital source of hard currency for the country's troubled economy, as well as higher costs for shipping that could push up global inflation.

As Cooper took command of the 5th Fleet in 2021, the threat to shipping focused primarily around the Persian Gulf and its narrow mouth, the Strait of Hormuz, through which a fifth of all oil traded passes. A series of attacks blamed on Iran and ship seizures by Tehran followed the collapse of Iran's nuclear deal with world powers.

In his interview with the AP, the Navy commander acknowledged the threat from Iran's proxies and that its distribution of weapons extended from the Red Sea out to the far reaches of the Indian Ocean. The U.S.

has blamed Iran for recent drone attacks on shipping, and a U.S.-owned cargo vessel came under attack from the Houthis in the Gulf of Aden last week.

So far, Iran hasn't become directly involved in fighting either Israel or the U.S. since the war in Gaza began on Oct. 7. However, Cooper maintained Iran had been directly fueling the Houthi attacks on shipping.

"What I'll say is Iran is clearly funding, they're resourcing, they are supplying and they're providing training," Cooper said. "They're obviously very directly involved. There's no secret there."

Cooper described the ship attacks striking the Mideast as the worst since the so-called Tanker War of the 1980s. It culminated in a one-day naval battle between Washington and Tehran, and also saw the U.S. Navy accidentally shoot down an Iranian passenger jet, killing 290 people in 1988.

Back then, American naval ships escorted reflagged Kuwaiti oil tankers through the Persian Gulf and the strait after Iranian mines damaged vessels in the region. Cooper said authori-

ties had no current plans to reflag ships and escort them past Yemen.

Instead, the U.S. and its allies employ a "zone defense, and every once and a while we shift to a one-on-one," he said.

Cooper's reference to the tensions from more than three decades ago underlines just how precarious the situation in the wider Mideast has become as worries of a regional conflict over the Israel-Hamas war grow.

Monday night, Houthi military spokesman Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree, in a recorded address, claimed an attack in the Gulf of Aden on the Ocean Jazz, a U.S.-flagged ship managed by Seabulk, a company in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The firm declined to comment when reached by the AP. The Ocean Jazz had been in the Red Sea heading south four days ago, according to tracking data.

The 5th Fleet issued an on-line statement dismissing the Houthi claim.

"The Iranian-backed Houthi terrorists' report of an alleged successful attack on M/V Ocean Jazz is patently false," it said. The 5th Fleet

"has maintained constant communications with M/V Ocean Jazz throughout its safe transit."

Cooper spoke to the AP from the sidelines of a drone conference in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates. Under his command of the 5th Fleet, the naval force has created Task Force 59, a drone fleet to bolster its patrol of waterways in the region.

Today, a variety of drones provide the 5th Fleet coverage across about 10,000 square miles (25,900 square kilometers) of Mideast waters that the Navy otherwise wouldn't have eyes on, Cooper said. That helps its efforts to interdict suspected drug and weapons shipments.

U.S. forces seized Iranian-made missile parts and other weaponry this month from a ship bound for the Houthis in a raid that saw two Navy SEALs go missing. The U.S. military's Central Command said Sunday it now believes the SEALs are dead.

While not directly saying his fleet's drones played a part in the seizure, Cooper hinted at it. □

Federal officials recommend that airlines inspect door plugs on some older Boeing jets as well

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Aviation Administration recommends that airlines inspect the door plugs on certain Boeing 737s that are older than the Max 9 jetliner that suffered a blowout of a similar panel during a flight this month. The FAA said door plugs on one older version of the 737, called the 737-900ER, are identical in design to those on the Max 9, and some airlines “have noted findings with bolts during the maintenance inspections.”

The FAA issued a safety alert late Sunday. As soon as possible, airlines should visually inspect four places where a bolt, nut and pin secure the door plug to the plane, the agency said.

The door plugs are panels that seal holes left for extra doors when the number of seats is not enough to trigger a requirement for more emergency-evacuation exits. From inside the plane, they look like a regular window.

The FAA said that 737-900ERs have logged 3.9 million flights without any known issues involving the door plugs. By contrast, the Max 9 that suffered the



This image taken Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024, and released by the National Transportation Safety Board, shows a section of Alaska Airlines Flight 1282 that is missing panel on a Boeing 737-9 MAX in Portland, Ore.

blowout had made only 145 flights.

One of the two door plugs on an Alaska Airlines Boeing 737 Max 9 flew off the plane in midflight on Jan. 5. Passengers and investigators have described a violent decompression as air rushed out of the pressured cabin at 16,000 feet over

Oregon.

The plane made an emergency landing with a hole in its side, and no serious injuries were reported. On a mostly full plane, no one was sitting in the two seats nearest the panel that blew out.

The FAA has grounded all Max 9s with door plugs

instead of regular doors in the back of the cabin. Alaska and United Airlines are the only U.S. carriers to use the plane.

Besides grounding 171 Max 9 jets, the FAA is investigating quality-control measures at Boeing and its suppliers and has increased its oversight of the aircraft

maker. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the Oregon incident.

“We fully support the FAA and our customers in this action,” a Boeing spokeswoman said in a statement Monday.

Boeing delivered about 500 737-900ERs between 2007 and 2019 — mostly to three U.S. airlines — and about 380 have door plugs instead of exits.

Alaska said Monday that it began inspecting its 737-900ERs “several days ago” and has turned up no issues. The Seattle-based airline, which has canceled hundreds of flights because of the Max 9 grounding, said it expects no disruption from the inspections of its 737-900ERs.

United said it began inspecting the earlier Boeing model last week and expects to finish the reviews this week with no disruptions for passengers. Delta Air Lines, with 130 planes affected by the new FAA recommendation, said it was inspecting all 130 of its 737-900ERs and did not expect any impact on operations. □

Associated Press

Supreme Court allows federal agents to cut razor wire Texas installed on US-Mexico border

WASHINGTON (AP) — A divided Supreme Court on Monday allowed Border Patrol agents to cut razor wire that Texas installed on the U.S.-Mexico border, while a lawsuit over the wire continues.

The justices, by a 5-4 vote, granted an emergency appeal from the Biden administration, which has been in an escalating standoff at the border with Texas and had objected to an appellate ruling in favor of the state.

The concertina wire along roughly 30 miles (48 kilometers) of the Rio Grande near the border city of Eagle Pass



The U.S. Supreme Court is photographed through snow on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024, in Washington.

Associated Press

is part of Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's broader fight with the administration over immigration enforcement.

Abbott also has authorized installing floating barriers in the Rio Grande near Eagle Pass and allowed troopers to arrest and jail thousands of migrants on trespassing charges. The administration also is challenging those actions in federal court.

A federal appeals court last month forced federal agents to stop cutting the concertina wire. Large numbers of migrants have crossed at Eagle Pass in recent months.

In court papers, the administration said the wire impedes Border Patrol agents from reaching migrants as they cross the river and that, in any case,

federal immigration law trumps Texas' own efforts to stem the flow of migrants into the country.

Texas officials have argued that federal agents cut the wire to help groups crossing illegally through the river before taking them in for processing.

Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Amy Coney Barrett, Ketanji Brown Jackson, Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor sided with the administration. Justices Samuel Alito, Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh and Clarence Thomas voted with Texas.

No one provided any explanation for their vote. □

Dexter Scott King, son of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., dies of cancer at 62

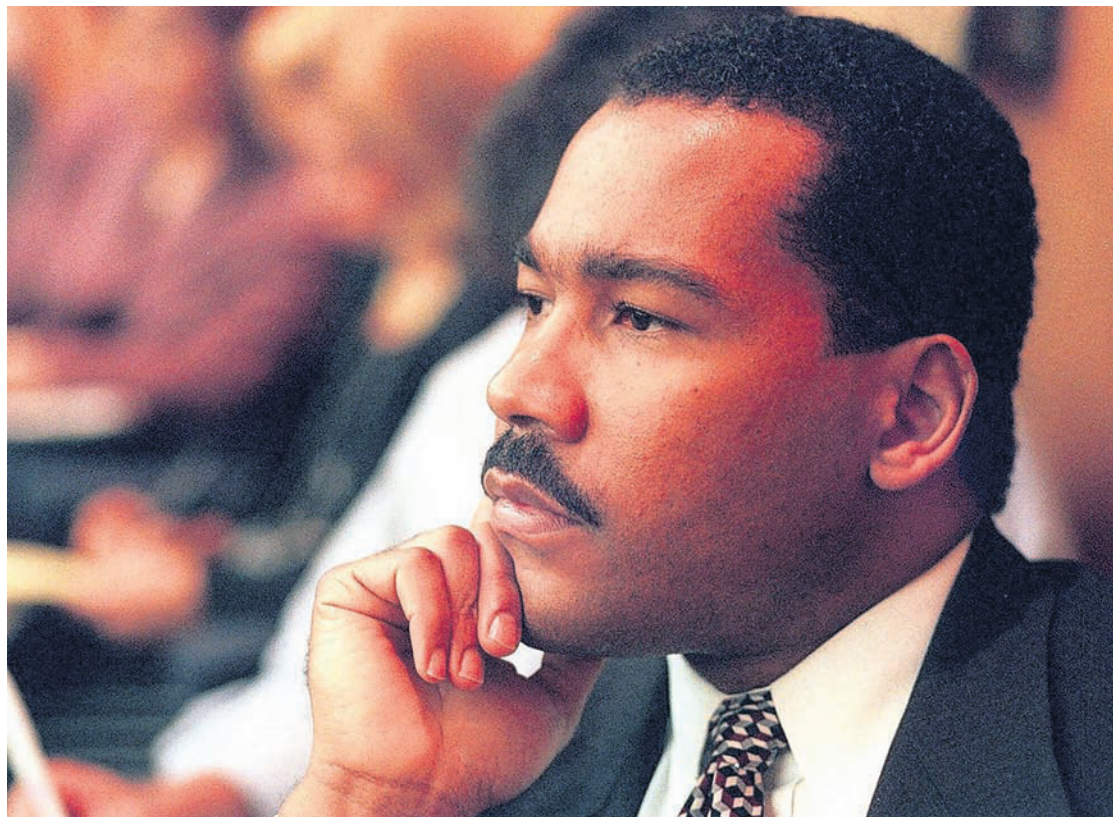
ATLANTA (AP) — Dexter Scott King, who dedicated much of his life to shepherding the civil rights legacy of his parents, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King, died Monday after battling prostate cancer. He was 62.

The King Center in Atlanta, which Dexter King served as chairman, said the younger son of the civil rights icon died at his home in Malibu, California. His wife, Leah Weber King, said in a statement that he died "peacefully in his sleep."

The third of the Kings' four children, Dexter King was named for the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, where his father served as a pastor when the Montgomery bus boycott launched him to national prominence in the wake of the 1955 arrest of Rosa Parks.

Dexter King was just 7 years old when his father was assassinated in April 1968 while supporting striking sanitation workers in Memphis, Tennessee.

"He turned that pain into activism, however, and dedicated his life to advancing the dream Martin and Coretta Scott King had for their children" and



Dexter King, son of the late civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., listens to arguments in the State Court of Criminal Appeals in Jackson, Tenn., Friday, Aug. 29, 1997, to determine whether two Memphis judges have overstepped their authority surrounding the investigation of the King assassination.

Associated Press

others, the Rev. Al Sharpton said in a statement. He said Dexter King "left us far too soon."

Dexter King described the impact his father's killing had on his childhood, and the rest of his life, in a 2004 memoir, "Growing Up King."

"Ever since I was seven, I've

felt I must be formal," he wrote, adding: "Formality, seriousness, certitude all these are difficult poses to maintain, even if you're a person with perfect equilibrium, with all the drama life throws at you."

As an adult, Dexter King bore such a striking resemblance to his famous father

that he was cast to portray him in a 2002 TV movie about Parks starring Angela Bassett.

He became an attorney and worked to protect the King family's intellectual property. In addition to serving as chairman of the King Center, he was also president of the King

estate.

Dexter King and his siblings, who shared control of the family estate, didn't always agree on how to uphold their parents' legacy.

In one particularly bitter disagreement, the siblings ended up in court after Dexter King and his brother in 2014 sought to sell the Nobel Peace Prize their father was awarded in 1964 along with the civil rights leader's traveling Bible used by President Barack Obama for his second inauguration. Bernice King said she found the notion unthinkable.

The King siblings settled the dispute in 2016 after former President Jimmy Carter served as a mediator. The items were turned over to the brothers, but other terms of the settlement were kept confidential.

Coretta Scott King died in 2006, followed by the Kings' oldest child, Yolanda King, in 2007.

"Words cannot express the heart break I feel from losing another sibling," the Rev. Bernice A. King, the youngest of the four, said in a statement.

His older brother, Martin Luther King III, said: "The sudden shock is devastating. □"

Judge orders the unsealing of divorce case of Trump special prosecutor in Georgia accused of affair

By KATE BRUMBACK and ALANNA DURKIN RICHER

Associated Press

MARIETTA, Ga. (AP) — A judge on Monday ordered court records to be made public in the divorce involving a special prosecutor hired in the election case against Donald Trump and others and accused of having an affair with Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis.

The judge ordered the unsealing of the divorce involving special prosecutor Nathan Wade after a request brought by a defense attorney who alleges Wade is in an inappropriate relationship with Willis. The judge also put off a final

decision on whether Willis will have to sit for questioning in the divorce case,

but delayed her deposition that had been scheduled for Tuesday.



Special prosecutor Nathan Wade speaks during a motions hearing for former President Donald Trump's election interference case, Friday, Jan. 12, 2024 in Atlanta.

Associated Press

Willis has defended her hiring of Wade, who has little prosecutorial experience, and has not directly denied a romantic relationship. Willis has accused Wade's estranged wife of trying to obstruct her criminal election interference case against Trump and others by seeking to question her in the couple's divorce proceedings.

Willis was served with the subpoena to sit for a deposition in the divorce case the day that defense attorney Ashleigh Merchant, who represents former Trump campaign staffer and onetime White House aide Michael Roman, filed a motion alleging the ro-

manic relationship between Willis and Wade.

Joycelyn Wade's attorney has filed court documents showing Wade bought plane tickets in Willis' name, arguing there "appears to be no reasonable explanation for their travels apart from a romantic relationship."

The affair allegations have roiled the case, which charges Trump and 18 allies of working to overturn his 2020 election loss in the state.

Trump and others have seized on the allegations to attack the case and Wade's qualifications as a prosecutor. □

EU pushes for Palestinian statehood, rejecting Israeli leader's insistence it's off the table

By **LORNE COOK**
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — European Union foreign ministers argued Monday that the creation of a Palestinian state is the only credible way to achieve peace in the Middle East, and they expressed concern about Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's clear rejection of the idea.

"The declarations of Benjamin Netanyahu are worrying. There will be a need for a Palestinian state with security guarantees for all," French Foreign Affairs Minister Stephane Sejourne told reporters in Brussels, where ministers met to discuss the war in Gaza.

Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz and Palestinian counterpart Riad Malki also were in Belgium's capital for the talks. The issue of Gaza's future has set Israel in opposition to the United States and its Arab allies as well as they work to mediate an end to the fighting in the besieged Palestinian territory.

The Palestinian death toll from the war between Israel and Hamas has surpassed 25,000, according to the Health Ministry in Gaza. Israel said Sunday



Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad Najeeb al-Maliki, left, speaks with European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell during a meeting of EU foreign ministers at the European Council building in Brussels, Monday, Jan. 22, 2024.

that another of the hostages taken during the Oct. 7 attack that triggered the war had died.

The EU is the world's top provider of aid to the Palestinians but holds little leverage over Israel, despite being its biggest trading partner. The 27 member countries are also deeply divided in their approach. But as the death toll in Gaza mounts, so do calls for a halt to the

fighting.

"Gaza is in a situation of extreme urgency. There is a risk of famine. There is a risk of epidemics. The violence must stop," said Belgian Foreign Minister Hadja Lahbib, whose country holds the EU's rotating presidency.

"We demand an immediate cease-fire, the release of the hostages, the respect of international law (and) a return to the

peace process, which must lead to the creation of two states living in peace side by side," Lahbib said, describing a two-state solution as "the only way to establish peace in a durable way in the region."

Israel appears far from achieving its goals of crushing Hamas and freeing the more than 100 remaining hostages. But Netanyahu rejects Palestinian state-

hood and seeks open-ended military control over Gaza.

The dispute over the territory's future with no end in sight to the war poses a major obstacle to any plans for postwar governance or reconstruction.

The EU invited the foreign ministers of Israel, the Palestinians, Egypt, Jordan and a representative of the Arab League to take part in Monday's talks. The ministers for Israel and the Palestinians were not due to meet each other.

The European ministers wanted to hear about Israel's plans for the future.

"Which are the other solutions they have in mind?," asked EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell, who chaired the meeting. "To make all the Palestinians leave? To kill off them?"

Borrell condemned what he described as the atrocities committed by Hamas, but added that Israeli military actions "are seeding the hate for generations."

The Palestinian minister said a cease-fire is the most urgent need.

"We have to call collectively for a cease-fire. We cannot accept anything less," Malki said. □

Top religious leaders in Haiti denounce kidnapping of nuns and demand government action



A woman walks past burning tires set on fire by protesters to call attention to the country's insecurity and demanding the resignation of the prime minister, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024.

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — The Archdiocese of Port-au-Prince pleaded for the release of six nuns kidnapped last week and demanded that Haiti's government crack down on gang violence, in a strongly worded letter released Monday.

The Archdiocese, along with the Haitian Conference of the Religious, said in the letter that Haitians are tired of the "reign of terror" imposed by armed groups and called on government officials to protect people and their property.

"On many occasions, the Church has denounced

their silence, which is similar to an attitude of contempt for people's suffering," the letter stated.

Religious leaders said they were distressed to witness that there has not been a serious response to what it called a scourge of kidnappings for more than two years.

They said the ongoing violence has "plunged the country into an increasingly confusing and chaotic situation" as they called for the safe release of the kidnapped nuns without conditions.

The nuns and two other people were traveling

aboard a bus in Port-au-Prince when they were kidnapped last Friday. No one has publicly claimed responsibility for the abduction.

On Sunday, Pope Francis pleaded for their release. Speaking from a window of the Apostolic Palace to faithful gathered in St. Peter's Square, Francis said he learned of the news of the kidnapping with sorrow: "In asking fervently for their release, I pray for social harmony in the country, and I ask all to put stop to the violence, which causes so much suffering to that dear population." □

Landslide in China buries 47 people in freezing temperatures and snow. Two survivors are found

BEIJING (AP) — A landslide buried 47 people in a remote village in mountainous southwestern China on Monday, state media said. Hours later, two survivors were rescued amid freezing temperatures and falling snow.

The disaster struck just before 6 a.m. in the village of Liangshui in the north-eastern part of Yunnan province. By evening, nine bodies were retrieved and about 500 people were evacuated from the area. Rescue crews continued to try and find victims who were buried in about 18 homes, the Zhenxiong county publicity department said. Reports said eight of the bodies were from the group that was initially buried by the landslide but did not say where the ninth body was found. The cause of the landslide wasn't immediately known as survivors and rescuers struggled with snow, icy roads and freezing temperatures that were forecast to persist for at least the next three days. Luo Dongmei, 35, was sleeping when the land-



In this image taken from video footage run by China's CCTV, rescue workers search through rubbles in the aftermath of a landslide in liangshui village in southwestern China's Yunnan Province on Monday, Jan. 22, 2024.

Associated Press

slide struck, but she survived and was relocated to a school building by local authorities.

"I was asleep, but my brother knocked on the door and woke me up. They said there was a landslide and the bed was shaking, so they rushed upstairs and woke us up," Luo said.

Luo, her husband and their three children, along with many other residents, have

been provided with food at the school but are still waiting for blankets and other protection from the cold weather, she said.

Luo said she's been unable to contact her sister and aunt, who lived closer to the site of the landslide. "The only thing I can do is to wait," she said.

State broadcaster CCTV put the death toll at nine by 6 p.m., roughly 12 hours

after the disaster struck. Zhengxiong county lies about 2,250 kilometers (1,400 miles) southwest of Beijing, with altitudes ranging as high as 2,400 meters (7,900 feet).

Heavy snow has struck many parts of China, causing transportation chaos and endangering lives.

Last week, rescuers evacuated tourists from a remote skiing area in northwestern

China where dozens of avalanches triggered by heavy snow had trapped more than 1,000 people for a week. The avalanches blocked roads, stranding both tourists and residents in a village in Altay prefecture in the Xinjiang region, close to China's border with Mongolia, Russia and Kazakhstan.

Landslides, often caused by rain or unsafe construction work, are not uncommon in China. At least 70 people were killed in landslides last year, including more than 50 at an open pit mine in China's Inner Mongolia region.

In all, natural disasters in China left 691 people dead and missing and last year, causing direct economic losses of about 345 billion yuan (\$48 billion, according to the National Commission for Disaster Reduction and the Ministry of Emergency Management. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Natural Resources enacted emergency response measures for geological disasters and sent a work team of experts to the site. □

Taliban is enforcing restrictions on single and unaccompanied Afghan women, says U.N. report

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The Taliban are restricting Afghan women's access to work, travel and healthcare if they are unmarried or don't have a male guardian, according to a U.N. report published Monday.

In one incident, officials from the Vice and Virtue Ministry advised a woman to get married if she wanted to keep her job at a health care facility, saying it was inappropriate for an unwed woman to work, it said.

The Taliban have barred women from most areas of public life and stopped girls from going to school beyond the sixth grade as part of harsh measures they imposed after taking power in 2021, despite initially

promising more moderate rule.

They have also shut down beauty parlors and started enforcing a dress code, arresting women who don't

comply with their interpretation of hijab, or Islamic headscarf. In May 2022, the Taliban issued a decree calling for women to only show their eyes and rec-

ommending they wear the head-to-toe burqa, similar to restrictions during the Taliban's previous rule between 1996 and 2001.

The U.N. spokesman, asked for Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' reaction to the latest bans, replied: "Horror!" Stephane Dujarric added: "It must be unimaginable to have to live there."

In its latest quarterly report, covering October to December last year, the U.N. Assistance Mission in Afghanistan said the Taliban are cracking down on Afghan women who are single or don't have a male guardian, or mahram, accompanying them.

There are no official laws about male guardianship

in Afghanistan, but the Taliban have said women cannot move around or travel a certain distance without a man who is related to her by blood or marriage.

Three female health care workers were detained last October because they were going to work without a mahram.

They were released after their families signed a written guarantee that they would not repeat the act, the report said.

In Paktia province, the Vice and Virtue Ministry has stopped women without mahrams from accessing health facilities since December. It visits health facilities in the province to ensure compliance. □



A Taliban fighter stands guard as women wait to receive food rations distributed by a humanitarian aid group, in Kabul, Afghanistan, on May 23, 2023.

Associated Press


Diamonds International with new location in Paseo Herencia Mall!

Saturday evening, Diamonds International celebrated the grand opening of their new location at the Paseo Herencia Mall.

Among other distinguished guests, the minister of Culture, Xiomara Maduro as well as other ministers of the Cabinet including Mr. Ursell Arends and Mr. Endy Croes, and directors of local orga-

nizations.

Around 8pm the red ribbon was cut, officially opening the beautiful new location for Diamonds International!

Make sure to visit for their stunning beautiful and watches, as the store is open daily at the Paseo Herencia. 



Why You Should Not Miss Aruba's Free City Center Street Car Tour


ORANJESTAD - Aruba's City Center Street Car - or as we call it in Dutch; "Tram van Oranjestad" - is a single track tram line in Oranjestad, the capital city of Aruba. It was inaugurated on 22 December 2012, being the first and so far the only passenger rail service on Aruba and the rest of the Dutch Caribbean. There are two trolleys, a single-deck one with 42 seats and a double-decker with 64 seats. The line was inspired by the popular battery-powered streetcar operation at the Grove in Los Angeles, USA. Aruba's streetcars are powered by hydrogen fuel cells, which are charged by the island's year-round trade winds.

Caya Betico Croes, mostly referred to as our "main



street" has been developed into a pollution-free pedestrian mall. The double-decker offers you a 360 degree view of the downtown area with a picture perfect scenery of the island's clear blue skies. Who would not enjoy a ride on this beautiful and naturally air-conditioned vehicle? The tour consists of a total of 9 stops approximately 200 meters apart from each other; all stops are clearly marked. The tram will bring you close to different museums, historical plazas,

monuments, the Protestant church, Aruba's high-end mall, retail shops, and a variety of local and international cuisine restaurants. The "I love Aruba" trademark also belongs to that list. The third stop on the route is close to a 5-minute walk to the famous Renaissance Marina showcasing luxurious yachts and Aruba's blue waters.

The "Tram van Oranjestad" starts from a balloon loop near the Port of Call and serves the downtown area and ends at Plaza Nicky. The first ride starts at 10:00 am sharp with intervals of 25minutes. The last trolley departs from the cruise port at 5:00pm. Don't miss this tour of the beautiful Aruba's City Center- it is free for all! 



Located in Palm Beach, across the Holiday Inn Hotel

www.paseoherencia.com





LAVA

ARUBA GLASS STUDIO

f i d @LAVAARUBA



+297 2803230 | Caya Harmonia 4, Sasakiweg

Aruba's Nature is to be Cherished

ST. CRUZ — The national park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There is numerous wildlife to discover like for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches. There are more places on the island that are a preserved area like the Bubali Plas which is a bird sanctuary.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the islands past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.



Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her



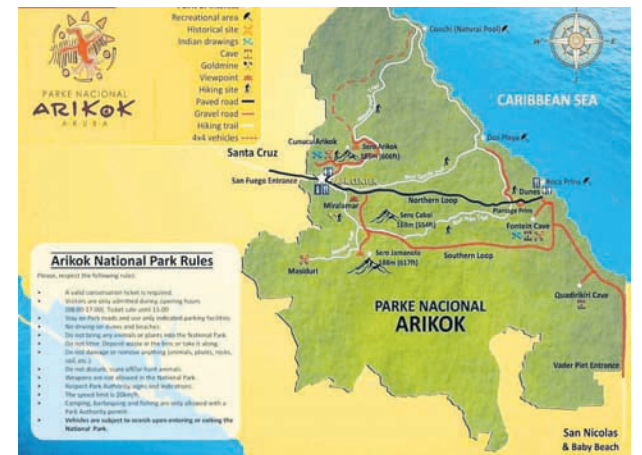
eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches. A very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

Bubali Magic

This beautiful close-up image of the pink bird is courtesy of Michiel Oversteegen of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation. This important foundation showcases and builds awareness of Aruba's birds and other native flora and fauna. You may have seen a 'pink cloud' lately at the Bubali or Spanish Lagoon Wetlands areas? It's most likely to be Roseate Spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaia*) or 'Chucharon Cora' as they are known in Papiamentu. This unusual looking bird forages in shallow muddy water while sweeping its flattened bill from side to side to catch small fish, crustaceans and other aquatic invertebrates. The Roseate Spoonbill remains an uncommon sight as they are vulnerable to degradation of feeding and nesting habitats (Wetlands). (Source: arikok

national park)

The aforementioned is just a part of what Aruba's nature has to offer. We cannot stress enough to go, see for yourself. The island has the most beautiful beaches but it is also worthwhile to go beyond this and get an idea of our entire island. Lately there is a discussion going on about the effect certain activities have on our nature, for example the ATV vehicles cause a lot of dust, noise and leave fire tracks. Animals live in these areas where the vehicles run, often with high speed and with detrimental conse-



quences to flora and fauna. Motorized vehicles are forbidden to drive on the sand dunes in the Northern part of the island and all beaches in Aruba are forbidden for any motorized vehicle. Treasure our island to enjoy it like you do: as a tropical and natural paradise. We truly appreciate it!

Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for sup-

porting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. For today we received a lovely message from Tina & Loren Lunt from Barre Town, Vermont, USA.

They wrote to us saying:

"Aruba to me is a recharge on life. This was our 5th trip to Aruba with many more to come. We fell in love with the island our very first trip. The kindness of the people, the culture, the weather, and those incredible sunsets! There is no other place in our eyes that will make all your worries go away. This is why it's called "One Happy Island!"

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers!



Weekly Free Slot or Table Play for all qualified Club members.

2X *Double Points Tuesday!*

**Earn
DOUBLE POINTS
all day long!**

Use your Players' Club card
to play our slots and we'll
DOUBLE your points!

THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

Aruba Tours & Adventures | Auntie Anne's Pretzels | Aruba Aloe
Behind The Mask | Juan Valdez Café | Baskin-Robbins
The Brownstone Ribs and Seafood | The Market | M8 Boutique
Fusion - Piano Wine & Cigar Bar | Shalom Body & Soul Spa
Hungry Piranha - Pizza, Wings & More | Twist of Flavors
The Lazy Lizard | Dunkin Donuts | Shalom Hair & Nails Bar
Magnet Perfume Jewelry & Cosmetics | Curated Lab

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 3am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 | 583.5000 | casinoalhambra.com

Play Responsibly. Visit www.gamblersanonymous.org if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.



Food culture in Aruba

(Oranjestad) - Like many other cultures, an important aspect of the Aruban cultural identity is our connection to food and food traditions. The local food traditions consist of a melting pot of different cultural and religious eating habits and dishes.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

The routine of breakfast, lunch and dinner on the island is one that does not completely follow a European or American routine, despite the major influences from these parts of the world on our culture and way of living. When it comes to the three important meals of the day, most of the Aruban population follows a Latin-American influenced routine.

Breakfast

Breakfast in Aruba is quite simple: a cup of coffee or tea, some bread, and sometimes an egg. Sometimes, due to the need of a quick "to-go" breakfast, you may also find many snack trucks and cafes that sell sandwiches, pastechis (meat pie), arepas and empanadas early in the morning.

Main Meal

The main meal is typically eaten in most households around noon or in the afternoon. This can consist of meat, fish, and chicken—stewed or fried—with funchi (polenta) or rice with stewed vegetables. Often, fried or boiled plantain or pan bati (Aruban pancake) is included. Stews are a staple in Aruban cuisine and can be largely influenced by Latin-American and Latin/Afro-Caribbean Stews. Some of the more unique stews and soups from the ABC Islands*

include sopi di bonchi cora (red kidney bean soup with pig tail), sopi mondongo (tripe soup), carni stoba (beef stew), comcomber stoba (West Indian gherkin stew) and much more.

Dinner Time

Dinner time can vary significantly from household to household. Unlike the U.S. or in Europe, dinner time typically does not consist of a whole (warm) meal. Instead, the evening "meal" can typically consist of something lighter, like a sandwich, though it is not uncommon to see leftovers from the main meal reheated and eaten again. Tea and coffee are often also served with the evening snack.

(Religious) Holidays

Christmas is probably the biggest global holiday, and every culture has its own spin on what their Christmas cuisine entails. In Aruba, our Christmas cuisine is again largely based on Latin-American influences, most notably from Venezuela. Ayacas and the famous pan di ham* are two crucial holiday dishes, along with stuffed turkey, roasted glazed ham topped with pineapples, arroz con pollo (rice and chicken) and potato salad, among other items. Traditional drinks include ponche crema (Aruban eggnog), chuculati pinda (hot chocolate with peanut butter), and homemade fruit punch. Desserts include, bolo di pistachio (pistachio cake), bolo di cashupete (cashew cake), quesoillo (flan), bolo preto (dark fruit cake), drigidek (gingerbread), pan boyo (bread cake) and more.

Snacks and tasty delights

Besides meals and dishes that are eaten on the dinner table, Aruba also has a food tradition that includes snacks and other tasty delights



that you may easily find around the island. These include, Saco*, basket, pastechi, kroket, deditos, Johnny cake and more. These snacks are usually sold at local snack trucks and cafes, often located on the side of the road. In the area of Tanki Leendert and Tanki flip, for example, there are many of these trucks parked on the side of the road and often open until late at night—offering tasty and filling snacks post night-life fun.

*ABC Islands: Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao

*Pan di ham: Derived from the Venezuelan Pan de Jamon (rolled up bread with ham, raisins and olives)

*Saco: Saco literally means "bag". Saco contains fried potatoes, plantains, chicken (and ribs) and a Johnny cake, served in a paper bag.

Source: Voeding, voedingsgewoonten en gerechten op Aruba (Nutrition, Food Traditions and Dishes on Aruba) by Biblioteca Nacional Aruba





Article by Etnia Nativa

WhatsApp us 592 2702 and book your Aruban experience!
Etnia Nativa is close to high rise Hotels



Ceramic Mysticism

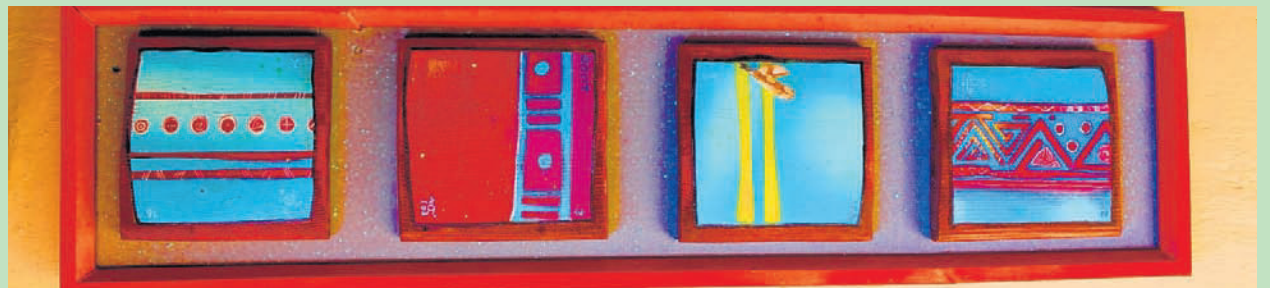
95

NOORD — For our earth works the “silence” of ceramics is only apparent because nothing is more eloquent for those who know how to seek for those who have the authentic legacy wisdom “from my soul to your soul” without “intermediaries”.

For the ancients of the old world ArsMuta, were for those who proceeded “without words or sounds,” poetry and music being excluded from this category and the one that was harmonic for the ear was considered superior for using sound as a matter.

In this way, the potter's trade, whether working with clay, with iron or with threads, etc. were considered subaltern or mute arts, mutating from one form to another. In this matter, the Church also despised these arts, which with vessels, tools and clothes served men, however the Church only accepted ‘the arts that dialogued with God’ such as music and poetry.

In the time of Martin Luther, it was said that the Devil hated music because it is pleasing to God, therefore the Devil likes the silent arts that work



with inferior or carnal materials. By this concept we also understand the distrust that the Church felt for the arts and knowledge that required investigation and fire. As the Church was so influential and the disdain it had for ceramics was such that the craftwork did not even have a name until 1550 when Cipriano Piccolpasso wrote the first book, ‘I Tre Libri dell Arte del Vasaio’ (the 3 books of the art of pottery). Art of the Vasaio since the ceramic was known as ‘art of the vasihero.’ Art creating empty storage, but at the same time between the “silent arts” there was a distinction ‘ArsRegia’ that melted precious metals and the ‘ArsTerrea’ or clay with which rustic objects they made glasses and plates that the people used since the nobles wore silver and gold.

EtniaNativa clay works reflect our energy in mystical silence. Every shape and detail printed on



what we create says something about who we are. Working with clay is a work of self-knowledge where creativity arises through emotion and fluency. EtniaNativa treats raw clay in the native traditional way. We identify the best material by hunting for raw clay. For this we distinguish high quality clay from the rest of the earth. Then adding water, we purify the material thus contributing to the cleansing process. During this stage the clay is purified and detoxified, dehydrating and thus we begin to mold our forms.

Our attention is focused on the geometric decorations and motives created by natives in the Dabajuroide style. EtniaNativa understands decoration as a communicative instrument. We trace these designs back to earthworks created by ancestral island inhabitants who used local clay for their ceramic containers and ritual objects.

To get to know more about Aruba and its origins, its animals and culture, we highly recommend you to book your visit for our renowned cultural encounter session has been entertaining curious participants for decades. Mail us at etnianativa03@gmail.com to confirm your participation. Our facilities and activities take place close to high rise hotels.

Weather forecast

Valid until Tuesday, January 23 2024, 18:00 hours

Weather:

This evening: partly cloudy and generally dry
During the overnight, early morning and tomorrow: Partly cloudy with a possible passing shower

Maximum temperature 32 centigrades

Minimum temperature 26 centigrades

Heat index during and around the afternoon hours: 33 to 38 degrees Celsius

UV index: 8

Sunset : 6:36 pm

Sunrise: 7:06 am.

Wind:

From generally east directions and moderate to fresh;

Force 4 to 5 (20 to 39 km/hr, 11 to 21 knots).

During daytime strong to near gale force to possibly gale force in gusts;
Force 6 to 8 (40 to 64 km/hr, 22 to 35 knots).

Synopsis for the next 24 hours:

The pressure gradient in the Caribbean is still strong and will support a moderate to strong breeze, reaching at times near gale force to possibly gale force in gusts, for most of the week. Otherwise, the atmosphere is relatively dry and will inhibit the development of most of the rain producing clouds. Apart from a passing shower during the morning generally dry weather conditions will prevail.

Marine conditions/ state of the sea:

On the protected sites: smooth: around 1 foot.

On the south sections: moderate at 3 to 4 feet.

On the east to northwest coastlines: Generally



moderate to locally quite rough at 6 to 7, locally 8 feet.

Warnings/ advisories:

A small craft advisory remains in effect for the east to northwest coastal sections and open seas until further notice. Sea bathers and users of the marine facilities must take this into account.

Rainfall potential for the next 24 hours:

Less than 1 mm; this can be locally different.

Did you know about...?

The history and meaning of the Aruban florin

(Oranjestad)—Aruba Today is proud to officially introduce a new segment called **Did you know about...?**, where we dive into some (historical) facts of Aruba, its culture and way of living. In this first edition, we look back at the Aruban florin: its history, design and symbolism.

In Aruba, we know the 5, 10, 25 and 50 cent coins, along with the 1 and 5 Florin coin. Aruban Florin bills include the 10, 25, 50, 100, and rarely, the 200 bills. In Papiamentu we call our currency Florin, but the umbrella term for money is placa. Cents are called cen (pronounced: seng), both in the singular and plural form. Most coins are circular and their size depend on their worth. However, the 50 cent coin is easily recognizable by their square shape, as is the 5 Florin coin by their golden color. Every coin has the Aruban emblem carved on it, with the other side displaying the worth of the coin. The bigger 1 and 5 florin coins, however, contain the carving of the emblem on one side, while displaying the side profile of the Dutch king, Willem-Alexander, on the other side. When his mother, Princess Beatrix, was reigning queen, it was her profile that was carved on the two coins.

Outdated Aruban coins and their names

In the past, Aruban coins had distinctive names and also varied in worth. For example, a 5-cent coin was once called *Dos placa*; 10-

cent coins were called *debchi*; 25-cent coins were called *diez placa* and the 50-cent coin was once called *Yotin* (pronounced: jo-teen). We also used a distinctive coins worth 2 ½ cents, called *placa* too. However, this last coin is no longer in use and has become a relic of Aruban money. Back then, the 5-Florin coin used to also be square, but now it is circular.

Aruban bills: their design and symbolism

The Aruban Florin collection contains a variation of colorful bills, displaying incredibly detailed and beautiful designs that tell the story of Aruba on a single piece of paper.

Prior to 2019, the Aruban Florin bills were relatively simpler in design compared to now, but still included beautiful designs and colors, often depicting local animals. These past designs were made by the Aruban artist Everino Fingal in 1990 up to 2019. Between 1990 and 1993, the 5 Florin coin was a bill. The Fingal designs also included a 500-Florin bill, which has now been discontinued.

In 2019, the Central Bank of Aruba commissioned a new design of the Aruba Florin bills, this time selecting artist and former art teacher, Nigel Matthew, to present his new design. Matthew kept the tradition of including local animals and the familiar colors on the bills. However, he included additional designs



that represent the Aruban culture and link to the Indigenous inhabitants that were the first to set foot on the island.

Current design and symbolism

10 florin

On the 10-florin bill, you can see a *Turtuga blanco* (white turtle). The blue color symbolizes the blue Caribbean Sea. You can also see the ruins of the *Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins*, a coral motif, and the symbols of *Cas Floria* (traditional Aruban house design) with a piece of mosaic.

25 florin

On this orange bill, you can see an Aruban medicinal plant called *Shoshoro*. The birds *Trupiaal*, *Shoco*, rock drawings, and the symbols of *Cas Floria* with a piece of mosaic are also depicted. There is also a *Purun di ceramica* (clay pot), in reference to the relics left behind by our indigenous ancestors.

50 florin

On this bill, we see the *Cododo* (blue lizard found on the ABC islands), *Cangreu di tera* (land crab), *Willem III Tower*, and again the symbols of *Cas Floria* with a piece of mosaic, as well as a beach plant

called *Banana di rif*. The colors are pink/purple.

100 florin

This bill is green in color, representing nature. Here we see the *Yuwana* (Iguana), *Aloe*, *Toteki* (lizard), the symbols of *Cas Floria* with a piece of mosaic, and a dance group performing the *Baile di cinta* (folkloric dance with silk ribbons).

200 florin

There is another bill with a value of 200 dollars. The brown color symbolizes the earth of Aruba. Here we see the *Dornasol* and the *Warawara*—both local birds, along with the symbols of *Cas Floria* with a piece of mosaic, the *Tuna cactus* plant, and the *Caha di orgel* (folkloric instrument, used for many traditional songs).

Extra fact:

the word "florin" supposedly is named after the Italian city of Florence or it's a reference to the Italian word "florino", both explanations related to historical Italian currencies.

Source: *Placa, placa, placa* by the National Library of Aruba



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 41 Tenant's

1 Strictness form

6 Halts

11 Plain silly limbed

12 Deserve 43 Adorable

13 Subway

rider

15 Do the

wrong

thing

16 Nervous

habit

17 Cry of

insight

18 Coffee bar

choice

20 Dijon

denial

21 Com-

pletely

22 Not spicy

23 Get a goal

26 Bad habits

27 Valentine

word

28 Scathing

review

29 Singer

Rita

30 Kidnap

victim

34 Young

one

35 Naval

initials

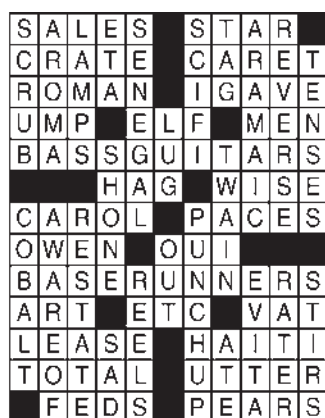
36 Table part

37 Suspense-

ful finish

40 Coldly

distant



Yesterday's answer

DOWN

1 Gets up

2 Prelude

3 Cartoonist

Trudeau

4 "Not —

dare!"

5 Gator or

gecko

6 Open-

handed hit

7 Finger

count

8 Like some

produce

9 Mouth, in

slang

10 Maroons

14 Sledding

site

19 Stallion's

mate

22 Gum

flavor

23 Kid's

racer

24 Flower

part

25 Ap-

plause

26 Feudal

slaves

28 Swanky

30 Irritated

31 Pond

32 V fliers

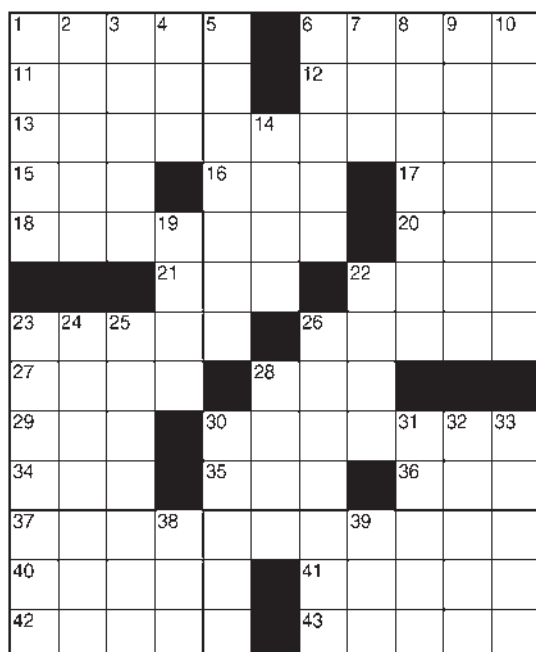
33 Wading

bird

38 Sailing

hazard

39 Original



1-23

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

1-23 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

CL C RZXXBM TCMLQ YXB

VGYOIR BCL NZVBIQ JOL XYL

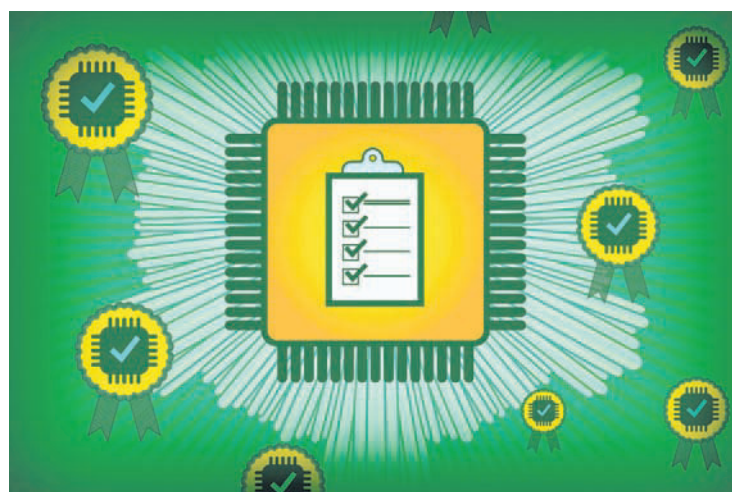
LYY NBII, CXR LCID NBII JOL

XYL LYY NZVBIQ. — N.

VYWBMVBL WCOEGCW

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I WONDER IF THE SNOW LOVES THE TREES AND FIELDS THAT IT KISSES THEM SO GENTLY? — LEWIS CARROLL

Insider Q&A: Small federal agency crafts standards for making AI safe, secure and trustworthy



(Associated Press Illustration/Peter Hamlin)

By FRANK BAJAK
AP Technology Writer

BOSTON (AP) — No technology since nuclear fission will shape our collective future quite like artificial intelligence, so it's paramount AI systems are safe, secure, trustworthy and socially responsible.

But unlike the atom bomb, this paradigm shift has been almost completely driven by the private tech sector, which has been has

been resistant to regulation, to say the least. Billions are at stake, making the Biden administration's task of setting standards for AI safety a major challenge.

To define the parameters, it has tapped a small federal agency, The National Institute of Standards and Technology. NIST's tools and measures define products and services from atomic clocks to election security tech and nano-

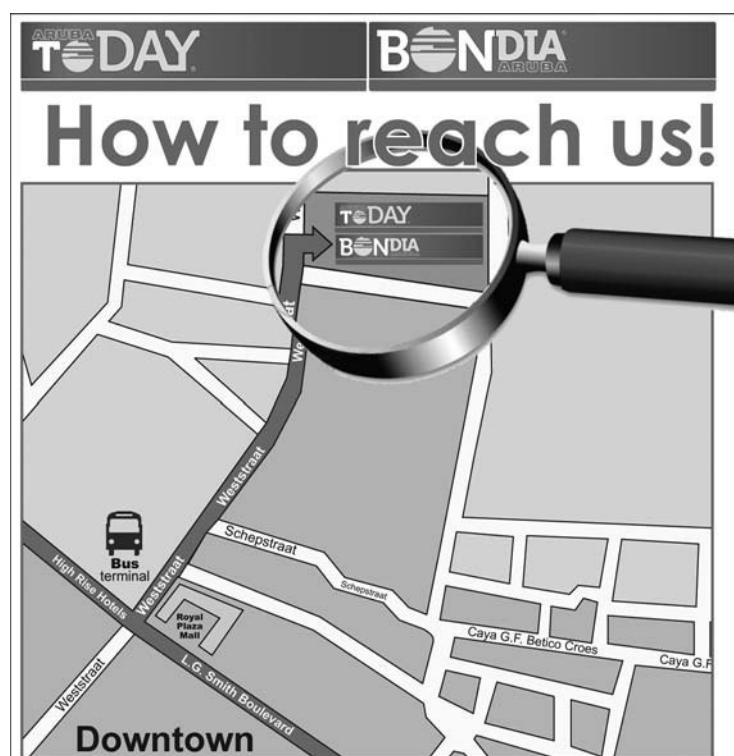
materials.

At the helm of the agency's AI efforts is Elham Tabassi, NIST's chief AI advisor. She shepherded the AI Risk Management Framework published 12 months ago that laid groundwork for Biden's Oct. 30 AI executive order. It catalogued such risks as bias against non-whites and threats to privacy.

Iranian-born, Tabassi came to the U.S. in 1994 for her master's in electrical engineering and joined NIST not long after. She is principal architect of a standard the FBI uses to measure fingerprint image quality. This interview with Tabassi has been edited for length and clarity.

Q: Emergent AI technologies have capabilities their creators don't even understand.

There isn't even an agreed upon vocabulary, the technology is so new. □



Classifieds

Looking to purchase
Marriott Surf Club

Platinum season

Garden view

Price : \$13 ,000

Call :011-297-630-1307

johnnypaesch@gmail.com

House for sale

Tierra del sol

Gated community

4 Bedroom 3 1/2 bath

With pool

Price :\$ 750 K

Call :011-297-630-1307

johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Appartment complex
Ponton

18 Appartment

2 built and 16 to be built

Price : \$350 K

Call :011-297-630-1307

johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Honey Dolls
MESSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

Beautiful Latin Girls
Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

+297 565-9535

WWW.PLEASUREINARUBA.COM

24/7

Classifieds

For sale,

Property land

Sero Colorado 3700m2
(39826,468 sq feet)
Baby beach ocean view
Price :\$1, 110,000
Call:0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

House For sale

West punt Ruby
5 min drive to the ocean
3 BR 2bath with one apartment
With pool
Price:\$640K
Call:0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

House For sale

Noord
3 BR 2 bath
5 min drive to the beach
Price:\$350K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

House For sale

Fixer upper
Salin'a serka
3 BR 2 Bath with apartment
Price:\$325 K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

House for sale

Cumana near CMart
Central located
2 bedroom 2bath with apartment
With pool and 4 apartment
Price :\$630K
Call:0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

For sale

Noord
Bar/Restaurants
Price:\$850K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Casa Del Mar 2BR/2B:

Week 2/Unit1113 (21k);
Week 5/Unit1315 (23k);
Week 8/Unit1113 (19k);
Week 8/Unit1409 (19k);
Week 10/Unit1207 (19k);
Week 13/Unit1509 (14k); and,
Week 14/Unit1308 (14k).
CDMOwner@gmail.com
US(Call/Text): (860)992-3890

217264

Divi Village Golf

Eagle Beach
2 BR WK #3 room# 2317/2318
26 weeks remain
Price :\$18K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Divi Village Golf

Eagle Beach
2 BR WK 9 room #2117/2118
22 weeks remain
Price :\$18K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Divi Village Golf

Eagle Beach
1BR 2 bath WK 11
Room #2215 birdie 3
22 weeks remain
Price :\$ 9K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Divi Village

Eagle Beach
Studio WK 1 room #8201
19 weeks remain
Price:\$8K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Divi Village

Eagle Beach
Studio WK 3 room #7306
18 weeks remain
Price :\$7K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Divi Village

Eagle Beach
Studio WK # 5 room # 8105
Building C with elevator
1 st floor 13 weeks remain
Price :\$7 K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Divi Dutch Village

Eagle Beach
Studio WK #12 room #33
30 weeks remain
Price :\$9K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Divi Dutch Village

Eagle Beach
Studio WK #15 room # 125
Overlooking pool
32 weeks remain
Price :\$9K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Eagle Beach resort

Eagle Beach
1 BR WK 8 room #4561
4th floor pool view
Price :\$9K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

La Quinta beach resorts

Eagle Beach
Town House
2 BR WK #9 room #212
Price :\$12K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Ambassador suites

Eagle Beach
1 BR WK #12 room# 1328
2 BR WK #12 room # 1505
Price : 1BR \$7K 2BR \$18K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Barcelo resort

Palm Beach
All inclusive
1 BR deluxe WK 8 \$15K
3 BR WK 6/7
On the 9th floor \$80K both weeks
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Marriott destination points

Palm beach
At:\$6 a point
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

HTTA

Halley Time Travel Aruba
To all Time Share members
That are interested in sell your
Timeshare in Aruba
Contacts the expert
37 years of doing Honest business
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Caribbean Palm Village

Deeded
1 BR WK # 3 and 4 room # B 104
2 BR WK # 6 room # B 206
All 3 weeks for \$10 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Divi village golf

Eagle Beach
Studio week # 3 room # 4205
22 weeks remain
Price : \$ 8 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

217380

Divi Phoenix

Palm Beach
1 BR WK # 52 room #953
1 BR WK # 01 room #654
Value 186,000 Points
Experation date 2058
Price :\$60K both weeks
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Divi Phoenix

Palm Beach
Penthouse
2 BR WK 1 room #672
22 weeks remain
Price :\$35K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK # 2 room # 1228
Price :\$7200
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Renaissance ocean suites

Private islands
1 BR WK 12 room # 2521
Pool/ ocean view \$9K
1 BR WK # 15 room # 2111
Ground floor pool/ocean view
Call:011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com



Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Editors

Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks
Angenette Figuereo

Sales

Mark Gomes
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800
E: news@arubatoday.com
W: www.arubatoday.com
@arubatoday



HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel.524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:

del Pueblo: Tel. 582 1253
Seroe Preto: Tel. 584 4833

Women in Difficulties

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



In the biographical drama 'Rob Peace,' Chiwetel Ejiofor reframes a life

By **LINDSEY BAHR**

AP Film Writer

PARK CITY, Utah (AP) —

Chiwetel Ejiofor had read Jeff Hobbs' "The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace" years before Antoine Fuqua asked if he might consider writing and directing an adaptation.

The book, which explores the complex life of a brilliant boy who grew up in the crime ridden and blighted Orange, New Jersey, was written by Peace's old Yale roommate. His story did not fit neatly into familiar tropes about rough beginnings, incarcerated fathers or overly simplistic ideas about success and "getting out." This was a person who wanted to remain tied to his community, to his father, and also to succeed in his schooling and athletics (water polo) first at St. Benedict's Preparatory School in Newark and then at Yale where he studied molecular biochemistry and biophysics. Nine years after he graduated from university, in which he spent time teaching at his old prep school, traveled extensively, considered grad school and made money selling marijuana, Peace was killed. Some of the narratives



This image released by Sundance Institute shows actor-director Chiwetel Ejiofor, left, on the set of "Rob Peace", an official selection of the Premieres Program at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival.

chalked it up to the fact that he went back to where he came from. Ejiofor said Peace's mother told them that in the aftermath of his death, television crews came and filmed the garbage on the streets instead of the community.

But Hobbs and, subsequently, Ejiofor saw something more complicated and nuanced about the flawed idea of "social mobility" and about the "con-

fluence of race, housing, education and the criminal justice system." And, most importantly, he felt like he hadn't seen these ideas engaged with in film.

"I thought it was very special and very powerful," Ejiofor told The Associated Press in a recent interview. "It was sort of coincidental that I had had this big response to the book, but I hadn't pursued it in any way.

I jumped at the opportunity."

Fuqua, who had teamed up with Hobbs' wife, Rebecca, to adapt the film, thought Ejiofor would be the right person after seeing his feature debut, "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind," about a 13-year-old boy in Malawi who gets inventive after his family can no longer afford school.

"I knew it was meant to be a film," Antoine Fuqua

wrote in an email. "It was clear that (Chiwetel's) humanistic approach to storytelling was a perfect fit to bring Rob's life to screen."

"Rob Peace" is having its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival on Monday, where it hopes to find a distributor to get it out to the world.

"Movies like this need to be loved into existence, and that takes a village," said producer Alex Kurtzman, who got close to Ejiofor while directing him in "The Man Who Fell to Earth" series. "You don't make movies like this for money. You don't make movies like this for any reason other than this is an important story to tell. And some reason, we are lucky enough to be able to tell it."

To play Rob, who would have to carry the film and live in the very different worlds he traversed in his life, Ejiofor and his casting director found Jay Will, a recent Juilliard graduate.

"I never felt that it was a story about somebody who was able to play a role in different places," Ejiofor said.

"It was a story about somebody who very naturally and consistently was all of these things at once."

A sweet and savory mostly acoustic mix from Avery Hellman's ISMAY on 'Desert Pavement'

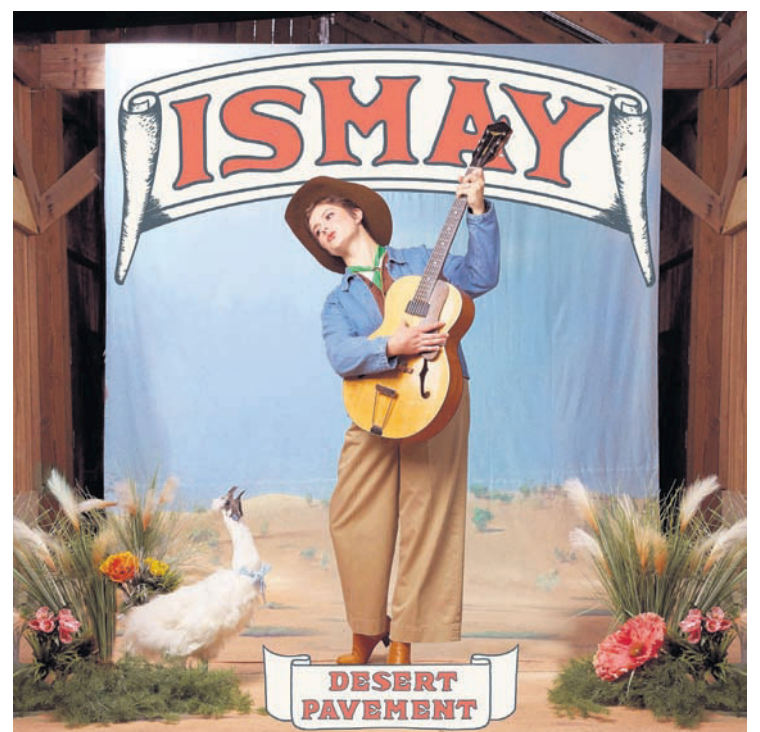
By **STEVEN WINE**

Associated Press

Avery Hellman possesses an affable alto that's quirky, as is the perspective from which Hellman writes. "Sitting alone on the porch I think / About the things we washed down the sink," goes one couplet. Hellman, whose grandfather founded the Hardly Strictly Bluegrass festival, is the rural California singer-songwriter behind the musical moniker ISMAY and the new album "Desert Pave-

ment," a captivating set with indeterminate antecedents. Hellman and producer/multi-instrumentalist Andrew Marlin create rich colors and hazy atmospherics in a sweet and savory mix. Fetching melodies are the kind one might whistle, and on "Stranger in the Barn," Marlin does. Disembodied backing vocals dart in and out, tricky fingerpicking patterns on guitar provide syncopation and drums reverberate as though they're inside

drums themselves. The result is mostly acoustic music that sounds good loud. Animals, nature and farm life are recurring subjects. On "The Ohio," Hellman sings of desert cracks, wild winds and the tug of a river. "Coyote in the Road" considers the encounter from both points of view, while "The Shearer & the Darby Ram" spins a tale from British lore. Topics elsewhere include family skeletons, domestic dysfunction, empathy, decency and creativity.



This cover image shows "Desert Pavement," a self-released album by Ismay.

Associated Press

Alcaraz sets up Australian Open quarterfinal against Zverev

By JOHN PYE

AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)

— Wimbledon champion Carlos Alcaraz will meet Olympic gold medalist Alexander Zverev in the Australian Open quarterfinals and Daniil Medvedev is also back in a last eight that is stacked with the top six seeds.

While the men's competition is playing fairly true to the rankings, the women's really is a tale of two halves. No. 12-seeded Zheng Qinwen, a quarterfinalist at last year's U.S. Open, is the highest-ranked player left in the top half of the bracket, where all four women who won Monday reached the last eight at Melbourne Park for the first time.

"The people who arrive to quarterfinals, for sure they're all feeling really well in this tournament," Zheng said after her 6-0, 6-3 win over No. 95 Oceane Dodin. "It's one player against another player, and we will compete."

She'll next play No. 75-ranked Anna Kalinskaya. No. 50 Linda Noskova, who beat top-ranked Iga Swiatek in the third round, will meet No. 93 Dayana Yastremska.

There's still three Grand



Carlos Alcaraz of Spain plays a forehand return to Miomir Kecmanovic of Serbia during their fourth round match at the Australian Open tennis championships at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Australia, Monday, Jan. 22, 2024.

Associated Press

Slam winners in the other half of the bracket. No. 2 Aryna Sabalenka, the defending champion, will take on 2021 French Open champion Barbora Krejickova and U.S. Open winner Coco Gauff will play Marta Kostyuk in quarterfinals on Tuesday.

The first of the men's quarterfinals 10-time Australian Open champion Novak Djokovic vs. No. 12 Taylor Fritz and No. 4 Jannik Sinner vs. No. 5 Andrey Rublev were set on Sunday, well before Alcaraz completed

a Grand Slam set by reaching the last eight in Australia for the first time.

The 20-year-old Alcaraz missed the 2023 Australian Open because of injury, but is making up for lost time.

He beat Miomir Kecmanovic 6-4, 6-4, 6-0 in less than two hours to open Monday's night session on Rod Laver Arena.

"Every match I'm playing, I'm feeling better and better on a court I didn't play so much," Alcaraz, the only man to beat Djokovic in a

major last year, said of his buildup here. "Hopefully the same as Wimbledon. Yeah, could be the same." He has dropped just one set. Zverev is into the quarterfinals here for the third time but is coming off some long five-set wins, including a four-hour, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3, 4-6, 7-6 (3) fourth-round victory over No. 19 Cameron Norrie.

It was the 32nd five-set match so far at the tournament, an Open era record in Australia.

Their match on Margaret

Court Arena was prolonged after being delayed briefly when a protester threw anti-war pamphlets onto the back of the court in the third set. The protester was escorted out by security.

No. 3 Medvedev, a two-time Australian Open runner-up, beat No. 69-ranked Nuno Borges 6-3, 7-6 (4), 5-7, 6-1 and will next face No. 9 Hubert Hurkacz, who ended the run of French wild-card entry Arthur Cazaux 7-6 (6), 7-6 (3), 6-4.

Some unexpected charges continue in the women's field, with opportunities opening up for the likes of Noskova, Yastremska and Kalinskaya to advance to the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam for the first time.

Kalinskaya beat No. 26 Jasmine Paolini 6-4, 6-2 to end a streak of 13 majors that didn't go beyond the second round.

Yastremska beat the 18th-seeded Victoria Azarenka, a two-time Australian Open champion, 7-6 (6), 6-4, and No. 23-seeded Elina Svitolina had to retire after hurting her back when she was trailing Noskova 3-0.

"I got a spasm, like a shooting pain," she said. "Couldn't do anything, completely locked my back, just very sad."

Luke Weaver guaranteed \$2 million by Yankees and could earn up to \$8.25 million over 2 years

NEW YORK (AP) — Right-hander Luke Weaver is guaranteed \$2 million as part of his one-year contract with the New York Yankees, a deal that includes a team option for 2025 and performance bonuses that allow him to earn up to \$8.25 million over two seasons.

As part of the deal announced Friday, the Yankees hold a \$2.5 million option for 2025. The option price could increase by \$3.5 million based on innings: \$500,000 for 100 and \$1 million each for 120, 140 and 160.

He can earn \$250,000 in

performance bonuses this year for both starts and re-

lief appearances: \$50,000 each for 10 starts and each



New York Yankees starting pitcher Luke Weaver works against the Arizona Diamondbacks during the first inning of a baseball game Friday, Sept. 22, 2023, in New York.

Associated Press

additional five through 30, and \$50,000 for 40 relief appearances and each additional five through 60.

Weaver was claimed by the Yankees off waivers from Seattle on Sept. 12, was 1-1 with a 3.38 ERA in three starts and became a free agent. Weaver was the 27th overall pick in the 2014 amateur draft and is 27-42 with a 5.14 ERA in eight major league seasons with St. Louis (2016-18), Arizona (2019-22), Kansas City (2022), Cincinnati (2023), Seattle (2023) and Yankees.

Another pitcher who reached a deal with the

Yankees this month, right-hander Cody Poteet, would earn \$750,000 while in the major leagues and \$200,000 while assigned to the minors. Poteet, whose contract was announced Jan. 5, had Tommy John surgery with Texas Rangers physician Dr. Keith Meister on Aug. 17, 2022, while with Miami, then refused an outright assignment after the season and elected to become a free agent. He signed a minor league contract with Kansas City and returned to the mound to make a two-inning start for Triple-A Omaha at Columbus on Sept. 23.

Conference championships are set with familiar faces and new arrivals

By **ROB MAADDI**
AP Pro Football Writer

Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs are back in the AFC championship game for a sixth straight season and probably taking Taylor Swift with them along with Travis Kelce's older, shirtless brother.

Dan Campbell has the Detroit Lions one win away from the franchise's first Super Bowl appearance after securing a spot in the NFC title game on the three-year anniversary of his teeth-kicking, kneecap-biting introductory news conference.

The Chiefs and Lions advanced with tough, down-to-the-wire victories on Sunday. Both teams moved on to face the No. 1 seed in their conference: the AFC's Baltimore Ravens and the NFC's San Francisco 49ers.

The NFL's Final Four teams are set. It'll be Chiefs-Ravens and Lions-49ers battling for the right to play for the Vince Lombardi Tro-



Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson (8) runs into the end zone for a touchdown against the Houston Texans during the second half of an NFL football AFC divisional playoff game, Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, in Baltimore.

Associated Press

phy.

Mahomes made several brilliant plays in his first road playoff game besides three Super Bowls and outshined Josh Allen in a 27-24

victory at Buffalo that was secured when Bills kicker Tyler Bass missed a 44-yard field goal wide right with 1:43 left. Mahomes, the two-time NFL and Su-

per Bowl MVP, tossed two touchdown passes to Travis Kelce while Swift and Brittany Mahomes hugged in a suite and bare-chested Eagles All-Pro center Jason Kelce celebrated by chugging beers in the row behind them.

Lamar Jackson and the Ravens (14-4) are waiting on the Chiefs (13-6) after routing the Houston Texans 34-10 Saturday. It'll be the first AFC championship game played outside Kansas City since 2018.

Mahomes had a big smile on his face after the game as he ran off the field, dodging snowballs without a helmet protecting him.

"I love being in Arrowhead (Stadium) and playing in front of that crowd but when you're on the road, it's you vs. them," Mahomes said. "It's you vs. everybody in the stadium and you have to come together as a team and the guys do that."

Earlier Sunday, Campbell, Jared Goff and the feisty Lions beat the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 31-23 to earn their second playoff win in the same season for the first time since 1957, the last year Detroit won the NFL title. The Lions (14-5) took advantage of costly mis-

takes, including drops, a missed field goal and Baker Mayfield's game-sealing interception to put away the Buccaneers.

Brock Purdy, Christian McCaffrey, George Kittle and a ferocious 49ers' defense led by Fred Warner stand in Detroit's way. The Lions have gone from 3-13-1 in Campbell's first season in 2021 to the brink of a trip to Las Vegas.

"Here, man, it's harsh winters, auto industry, blue collar, things aren't always easy," Campbell said about giving Detroit's long-suffering fans hope. "And I just think, that's what we're about. You want something the city can be proud of. You can look at those guys and say, 'Man, I can back that guy. I can back that team. I can resonate with those group of guys. They're kind of salty. They don't quit. They play hard.' "And so, I feel like we've done that. And I think these guys, they have a kinship with this city and this area, and they love it, man, and ultimately, that's what you want. Now, a year from now, two years, we'll be getting booed, maybe; that's a whole other deal, though. But right now, life's good, and I'm glad we could deliver that."

As Campbell told his players during his postgame speech in the locker room, they have two more wins to go. Getting the next one won't be easy against the 49ers. Purdy led San Francisco to a 24-21 comeback win over seventh-seeded Green Bay on Saturday night, sending the 49ers (13-5) to the NFC title game for the third consecutive season.

The Niners had no chance in hostile Philadelphia last year after Purdy suffered a significant elbow injury in the first quarter. They'll have a friendly atmosphere at home as coach Kyle Shanahan tries again to take the team back to the Super Bowl following a loss to Mahomes and the Chiefs four years ago. □

We Are HIRING

Join Our Award-Winning Team

#1 TOP HOTEL IN THE CARIBBEAN
#18 TOP HOTELS IN THE WORLD ON TRIPADVISOR
THE FIRST CARBON NEUTRAL RESORT IN THE CARIBBEAN

OPEN POSITIONS

- ✓ CONCIERGE/FRONT DESK AGENT
- ✓ FRONT OFFICE SUPERVISOR
- ✓ HOUSEMAN
- ✓ ROOM ATTENDANTS
- ✓ TURNDOWN ATTENDANTS
- ✓ HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR
- ✓ TECHNICIAN
- ✓ ENGINEERING SUPERVISOR
- ✓ HOST/HOSTESS (AM/PM)
- ✓ BEACH ATTENDANT
- ✓ SERVER (PM)

BENEFITS

ATTRACTIVE SALARIES WITH BONUS OPPORTUNITIES
5-DAY WORKWEEK WITH UP TO 27 VACATION DAYS
GYM MEMBERSHIP WITH BODYZONE + HEALTH INSURANCES
SAVINGS & LOAN PROGRAM, EMPLOYEE DISCOUNTS

APPLY ONLINE AT: WWW.BUCUTI.COM/CAREERS

BUCUTI & TARA
BEACH RESORT • ARUBA

Elements
RESTAURANT